

93-253

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

May 12, 1994

RECEIVED REPLY REFER TO:

JUN 17 1994

Honorable Tim Hutchinson
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Congressman Hutchinson:

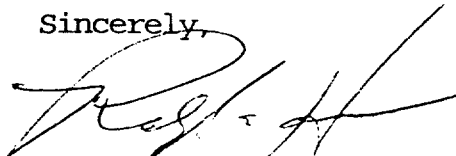
This is in reply to your letter of January 7, 1994, on behalf of your constituent Mr. Steven G. Sanders, President of the Northern Arkansas Telephone Company. Mr. Sanders is concerned about the problems faced by western rural telephone companies in serving small rural communities and the solutions needed to deliver personal communications services (PCS) to rural areas under the competitive bidding provisions of the recently enacted Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (OBRA). Mr. Sanders also called our attention to the comments filed by the Rocky Mountain Telecommunications Association and the Western Rural Telephone Association ("the Western Alliance"), a group of telephone companies in western states. Your letter was referred to me as Chief of the Personal Communications Systems Task Force for the Commission.

On March 8, 1994, the Commission adopted a Second Report and Order in Docket No. 93-253. That proceeding established general menu of tools designed to assist those entities, including rural telephone companies, identified by the Congress as requiring special consideration by the Commission (the "designated entities"). I am pleased to note that the Commission has adopted several of the proposals advocated by the Western Alliance.

The Commission, for example, adopted bidding credits and installment payments for use by designated entities, both of which were suggested by the Western Alliance in its comments. The Commission also stretched out its down payment requirements for designated entities, again consistent with the Western Alliance's comments.

We are confident that the measures we have adopted will help enable rural telephone companies to provide personal communications services to rural customers. We also share your commitment to the provision of equal and universal access of communications services to all Americans no matter where they live.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, PCS Task Force

*OBT
90-314*
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 7, 1994

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The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action in this


Please respond to the attention of:

Gregory Winter

Very Truly yours,

 Tim Hutchinson

M.C.

Arkansas-3rd

District.



November 19, 1993

The Honorable Tim Hutchinson
United States House of Representatives
1541 CHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hutchinson:

As a rural telephone company serving your constituents, we request that you contact the Federal Communications Commission by November 24, 1993, urging them to adopt the recommendations made in the November 10, 1993 comments filed by Rocky Mountain Telecommunications Association and Western Rural Telephone Association (the "Western Alliance"). These comments point out the unique problems faced by western rural telephone companies, and the solutions needed to ensure Personal Communications Service ("PCS") to rural areas as mandated by Congress. You should have already received a letter from these telephone associations, providing you with details of their proposals and asking for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Sanders", written over a horizontal line.

Steven G. Sanders
President

dgl

301 East Main Street
Flippin, Arkansas 72634

501-453-8811
Fax 501-453-2249